

Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has intimated that there is no declines in the standard of teaching in Navodaya Vidyalayas in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Mumbai High Natural Gas Plant

2953. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to provide Mumbai High Natural Gas to BSES Thermal Plant at Dahanu has been received by the Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Natural Gas

2954. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether natural gas being produced in the country is not being fully utilised;

(b) if so, the total percentage of natural gas utilised in the country upto March, 1997;

(c) the percentage out of the remaining gas assessed for its utilisation;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any time bound scheme so as to utilise this estimated unutilised gas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) and (b) The percentage of natural gas utilised in the country as of March 1997, is around 93.5%

(c) to (e) The remaining gas is flared on account of:

- (i) technical requirements of field operations.
- (ii) gas from isolated structures not integrated with the main gas grid as it is economically unviable.
- (iii) less offtake by consumers; and
- (iv) lack of compression and transportation facilities.

ONGC and OIL have taken various steps for creation of additional gas collection and compression facilities as a result of which flaring has been reduced from 30% in the 7th Plan period to around 6.5% currently. Efforts are being made to further minimise the quantity of gas being flared.

[English]

Share of Profits

2955. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give its share of profits to oil companies from the oilfields and exploration blocks which were given to the private sector in 1994; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much amount is proposed to be given to each oil company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) and (b) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

Earthquake in Madhya Pradesh

2956. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether departmental houses, some headquarters, offices and units of defence were damaged in the earthquake which occurred on May 22, 1997 in Narmada valley of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any relief and assistance work have been carried out by the Army in towns and villages affected due to earthquake, if so, the details of relief works carried out.

(d) whether the production in many defence units have come to standstill and if so, to what extent the production in those units have been affected;

(e) whether he and Chief of any of the three wings